United Nations S/2008/511

Security Council

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Report of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the representative of Italy on the Security Council

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received credentials, signed on 25 July 2008 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Italy, stating that Mr. Giulio Terzi di Sant'Agata has been appointed representative of Italy on the Security Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

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United Nations S/2008/512

Security Council

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1 August 2008

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Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions and the statements of its President concerning the situation in Sierra Leone,

Commending the valuable contribution that the United Nations Integrated Office in Sierra Leone (UNIOSIL) has made to the recovery of Sierra Leone from conflict and to the country's peace, security and development,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General dated 29 April 2008 (S/2008/281) and his Recommendations on the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone,

Welcoming the holding of peaceful and democratic local elections in July 2008 as another important milestone in consolidating a sustainable peace in Sierra Leone,

Emphasizing the importance of the continued support of the United Nations system and the international community for the long-term peace, security and development of Sierra Leone, particularly through strengthening the capacity of the Government of Sierra Leone,

Stressing the importance of a smooth transition between UNIOSIL and the new United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office, and of the effective and efficient operation of that Office,

Welcoming the progress in the implementation of the Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework (PBC/2/SLE/1), and *encouraging* the Government of Sierra Leone to continue its close engagement with the Peacebuilding Commission by implementing the recommendations of the first biannual review of the Framework,

Welcoming the progress made in reforming the security sector in Sierra Leone and, in particular, the developing professionalism of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) and the Sierra Leone Police (SLP), and *underlining* the importance of the planned further strengthening and rationalizing of the security architecture so that the RSLAF and SLP are sustainable in the long term and able to carry out their tasks effectively,

Reiterating its appreciation for the work of the Special Court for Sierra Leone and its vital contribution to reconciliation, peacebuilding and the rule of law in Sierra Leone, *reiterating* its expectation that the Court will finish its work

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expeditiously, and *recognizing* that further arrangements will be needed to address residual matters after trials and appeals are completed,

Welcoming the role played by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and *encouraging* the Member States of the Mano River Union and other organizations to continue their efforts aimed at building regional and subregional peace and security,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL), as recommended in his report (S/2008/281) for a period of 12 months beginning on 1 October 2008, with the key tasks as specified in paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 8 below;

2. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General's recommendation in his report (S/2008/281) that UNIPSIL should be headed by an Executive Representative of the Secretary-General who would also serve as the Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme and United Nations Resident Coordinator; and *underlines* the need for appropriate expertise and adequate material resources, in order that the Office can effectively and efficiently implement its mandate;

3. *Requests* that UNIPSIL focus on and support the Government of Sierra Leone in the following areas:

(a) Providing political support to national and local efforts for identifying and resolving tensions and threats of potential conflict, whatever the source;

(b) Monitoring and promoting human rights, democratic institutions and the rule of law, including efforts to counter transnational organized crime and drug trafficking;

(c) Consolidating good governance reforms, with a special focus on anti-corruption instruments such as the Anti-Corruption Commission;

(d) Supporting decentralization, reviewing the 1991 Constitution and the enactment of relevant legislation;

(e) Closely coordinating with and supporting the work of the Peacebuilding Commission, as well as the implementation of the Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework and projects supported through the Peacebuilding Fund;

4. *Underlines* the importance of establishing a fully integrated office with effective coordination of strategy and programmes among the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes in Sierra Leone, and *emphasizes the need for* the United Nations system to support and cooperate fully with UNIPSIL, in accordance with the Executive Representative's function as Resident Representative and Resident Coordinator;

5. *Stresses* the need for close cooperation between UNIPSIL, ECOWAS, the Mano River Union, international partners and other United Nations missions in the region;

6. *Emphasizes* that the Government of Sierra Leone bears the primary responsibility for peacebuilding, security and long-term development in the country, and *encourages* the Government of Sierra Leone to continue its close engagement with the Peacebuilding Commission in this regard, including through the regular monitoring of progress in the implementation of the Sierra Leone Peacebuilding

Cooperation Framework, and *further encourages* international partners to continue to provide support to the Government of Sierra Leone and to cooperate with the Peacebuilding Commission;

7. *Calls upon* the Government of Sierra Leone and all other stakeholders in the country to increase their efforts to promote good governance, including through the effective functioning of local government and continued measures to combat corruption and improve accountability; promote the development of the private sector to generate wealth and employment opportunities, in particular for young people; strengthen the judiciary; and advance human rights, including through implementation of the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission;

8. *Emphasizes* the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, as recognized in resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008), *underlines* that a gender perspective should be taken into account in implementing all aspects of the mandate of UNIPSIL, and *encourages* UNIPSIL to work with the Government of Sierra Leone in this regard;

9. *Requests* that the Secretary-General keeps the Council informed every four months on the implementation of the mandate of UNIPSIL and this resolution, with the first report due by 31 January 2009;

10. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

United Nations A/ES-10/422–S/2008/513

General Assembly
Security Council

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5 August 2008

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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-third year

Identical letters dated 1 August 2008 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

In grave breach of and blatant contempt for international law and numerous United Nations resolutions, Israel, the occupying Power, continues its destructive colonization campaign in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in its attempts to forcibly acquire and de facto annex even more Palestinian land.

The occupying Power continues to unlawfully confiscate Palestinian land from its rightful owners and to destroy Palestinian homes and properties to facilitate its illegal construction and expansion of settlements, to which hundreds of thousands of Israeli settlers have been and continue to be illegally transferred, and its illegal construction of the wall inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around Occupied East Jerusalem. In doing so, the occupying Power continues to destroy Palestinian communities, many of which are now completely isolated from each other and some of which have been transformed into walled cantons; continues to destroy the contiguity of the Territory; and continues to destroy Palestinian lives as it inflicts displacement, economic and social devastation and even death on the Palestinian civilian population in its reckless, violent pursuit of this illegitimate, expansionist agenda.

The human face and toll of this illegal Israeli colonization campaign continues to be illustrated in the daily struggles of the Palestinian people as they confront the innumerable hardships directly caused by it and in their daily efforts to oppose the continuing confiscation of their land and other violations of their human rights by the occupying Power. For example, in villages all over the West Bank, including in places such as Bil'in, Khader and Ni'ilin, Palestinian civilians have waged daily demonstrations and marches against the confiscation of their land for the construction of the wall, often at great risk to their own lives as the occupying forces routinely fire tear gas, rubber-coated steel bullets and even live ammunition

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at protesters, causing injury and death to civilians, including children, and impose strict curfews on the civilian population to facilitate the unimpeded confiscation of their land.

In recent weeks, confrontations between the occupying army and Palestinian civilian protesters have been particularly intense in the village of Ni'ilin, where frequent demonstrations have been held against the wall, which threatens to swallow up a hundred more acres of the village's land, and many civilians have been critically injured. Tragically, during one of the villagers' desperate attempts on 29 July 20 stop the wall's construction, Israeli occupying forces killed a 10-year-old Palestinian boy, Ahmed Moussa, shooting him with a live bullet in the head as he, along with several other youths, threw stones and tried to scale a fence to stop the bulldozers brought in to clear large areas of the land. At Ahmed's funeral, the occupying forces once again fired at the crowds, striking 17-year-old Yousef Amira, who was pronounced clinically dead yesterday. Both of these tragic incidents were preceded by the shocking deliberate shooting of a bound and blindfolded Ni'ilin protester by an Israeli soldier on 7 July.

Israel is committing all such actions in grave breach of international law, particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention, by which Israel is bound as an occupying Power, and in total disrespect of the United Nations resolutions and the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 9 July 2004. In this regard, it should be recalled that July 2008 marked the fourth anniversary of that advisory opinion, by which the Court affirmed the illegality of the wall, which is being constructed deep in the Palestinian Territory in deviation from the 1967 Green Line, and of its associated regime and called upon Israel to cease construction of the wall, to dismantle it and to make reparations for all damage caused by it. Moreover, affirming the wall's direct connection to Israel's unlawful settlement campaign, the Court concluded that "the route chosen for the wall gives expression in loco to the illegal measures taken by Israel with regard to Jerusalem and the settlements, as deplored by the Security Council" (para. 122).

Yet Israel continues its illegal construction of the settlements and the wall. The occupying Power has already completed 60 per cent of the planned route of the wall, which is projected to be more than twice the length of the 1967 Green Line, in addition to the 150 settlements and more than 100 settlement "outposts" illegally established in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which together occupy huge swathes of land totalling approximately 50 per cent of the West Bank. This has resulted in the altering of the demographic composition and character of the Territory, which is being severely fragmented, and the undermining of its contiguity, integrity, unity and viability. As such, Israel's colonization campaign clearly constitutes the primary threat to the realization by the Palestinian people of their inalienable human rights and to the achievement of the two-State solution for peace, an independent State of Palestine living side by side with Israel in peace and security on the basis of the 1967 borders, in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 1397 (2002) and 1515 (2003).

It is thus imperative that the international community, including the Security Council, act to bring an end to all of Israel's breaches of international law, including its destructive, deadly colonization campaign, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The Palestinian people, whose daily lives continue to be marred by the occupying

Power's oppression and illegal, inhumane practices, appeal again to the international community to uphold the law and exert serious efforts to compel Israel to respect its legal obligations and to immediately halt all violations of international law. Such responsible action by the international community is necessary not only for stemming the deterioration of the situation on the ground but also for salvaging the prospects for peace.

The present letter is in follow-up to our previous 317 letters to you regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 25 June 2008 (A/ES-10/421-S/2008/421), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Feda **Abdelhady-Nasser**
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.